

SUMMARY OF INTERVIEW

Attendees, Date and Type of Interview

An in-person interview was conducted on February 7, 2008, at the United States Patent and trademark Office, and attended by Examiner Nathan Bowers, and Applicant's representative, Gregory A. Hermanson.

Identification of Claims Discussed

Claims 1, 3, and 38.

Identification of Prior Art Discussed

Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed U.S. Patent No. 6,385,496 ("Irwin"), and U.S. Publication No. 2005/0186671 ("Cannon"), as cited in the Office Action. The Examiner introduced U.S. Patent No. 7,110,835 ("Blevins").

Proposed Amendments

No amendments were proposed prior to the interview.

Principal Arguments and Other Matters

The cited art, including Cannon, does not teach or suggest all of the elements of the claims. In particular, the data transmitter taught by Cannon does not disclose the claimed utility tower which is configured to provide services to a bioreactor.

Results of Interview

It was agreed that the transmitter in Cannon, nor the other cited art singly or in combination, disclosed all of the limitations of the claimed utility tower, including, for example that the claimed utility tower is configured to provide services to a bioreactor. While features of the utility tower are also described in claims 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Applicant agreed to further clarify this distinction.